

Archived: Friday, September 27, 2019 8:52:45 AM
From: [Dogwood Alliance](#)
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2019 2:21:05 PM
To: [James White](#)
Subject: Registration Number 61653 - Protect our Forests and our Health
Importance: Normal

Sep 10, 2019

James White

Dear Permitting Officer, White,

I am writing to urge you to deny Enviva's proposed expansion. I oppose any expansion in production at the Enviva Southampton County wood pellet facility. Additionally, I call on VA DEQ to decouple Enviva's permit for expansion with their permit for air pollution controls. Enviva must be required to install air pollution controls that their competitors in other states have used for years. The public should have the ability to comment on these two separate issues independent of each other.

I am concerned with the expansion of the wood pellet industry, led by Enviva, and the industry's impact on Virginia's forests, communities, and the climate.

The urgency of the climate crisis demands that we dramatically scale up forest protection. We cannot afford the increased logging and degradation of our forests. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, to meet our climate goals we must dramatically scale up forest protection, conservation, and restoration. Yet Enviva is driving the destruction and degradation of tens of thousands of acres of Southern forests per year. An increasing body of scientific evidence shows that burning trees for utility-scale electricity releases more greenhouse gas emissions than fossil fuels do. If the Southampton County increase goes through, it will increase logging to 19,000 acres per year, and carbon emissions to 1,430,757 tpy - the equivalence of 303,770 additional cars on the road per year.

Enviva has been documented numerous times logging in the Roanoke River Basin, a river that has already flooded Southampton County numerous times. As our coastal communities prepare for more frequent and intense hurricanes, it is more important than ever to invest in nature to protect communities from the damage wrought by these intense storms. Natural forests and wetlands absorb floodwaters and slow them down, buffering communities from flooding and reducing costly property damage.

Furthermore, this expansion request comes amidst revelations of years-long violations of the Clean Air Act, and attempts by the industry to cover this up. A recent report by Environmental Integrity Project shows a shocking pattern of air quality violations or

noncompliance at almost all wood pellet facilities, with Virginia's Enviva facility being amongst the worst. For years, Enviva has been spewing hazardous pollutants into the air, emissions that have been linked to respiratory illness, heart disease, and cancer. Enviva consistently claims the health of communities living near their facilities is too expensive to protect. Enviva recently agreed to install proper air pollution controls at the Hamlet and Sampson County plants only after being dragged through court and threatened with an enforcement action.

Time and again, Enviva has misled the public, government, and investors on their emissions and sourcing practices. The company's past actions and missteps make it all the more imperative that it is strongly scrutinized at every step of the way.

I urge you to deny this Air Quality permit, Registration Number 61653, and any other proposals made by Enviva to expand operations. Additionally, I call on VA DEQ to decouple Enviva's permit for expansion with their permit for air pollution controls. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this permit.

Sincerely,

Janice Banks
14 Maple St
Center Barnstead, NH 03225-3602
(603) 269-3116
jabanks@tds.net

Archived: Friday, September 27, 2019 8:52:45 AM
From: [Dogwood Alliance](#)
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To: [James White](#)
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Sep 10, 2019

James White

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Sincerely,

Narmadha Somasundaram
102 Birch Cir
Manakin Sabot, VA 23103-3239
(804) 784-2812
narmadhas@hotmail.com

Archived: Friday, September 27, 2019 8:52:45 AM
From: [Dogwood Alliance](#)
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2019 4:50:36 AM
To: [James White](#)
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Importance: Normal

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Sincerely,

Steven Kranowski
816 Montgomery St
Blacksburg, VA 24060-3431
skranowski@aol.com